

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-02 INR-07 DHA-02 /022 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:MJDION:MCH

APPROVED BY USOAS:AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD

USOAS:WMATTHEWS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

UNCLAS STATE 247963

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, HR

SUBJECT: US CONTRIBUTION TO IAHRC ACCEPTED BY OAS

REF: STATE 242732, 235L24

1. PERMANENT COUNCIL OF OAS VOTED 20-0-2 (PANAMA/EL SALVADOR TO ACCEPT US OFFER OF SPECIAL \$102,000 CONTRIBUTION FOR WORK OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AT REGULAR SESSION OCTOBER 5. RESOLUTION PASSED WAS UNCHANGED VERSION OF ONE INITIALLY WRITTEN IN PROGRAM/BUDGET COMMITTEE DURING THREE SESSIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

2. HOUR-LONG EFFORT BY AMBASSADOR PITTY (PANAMA) TO REFER MATTER TO POLITICAL-JURIDICAL COMMITTEE FOR LENGTHY STUDY WAS OVERCOME BY US INSISTENCE ON DECISION BY PC ON MERITS OF OFFER RATHER THAN FURTHER PROCEDURAL DELAY. OTHER DELEGATIONS FAILED TO TAKE UP PANAMA'S CAUSE AND FINAL VOTE REFLECTED RELUCTANCE OF MOST TO GO ON RECORD OPPOSING SUPPORT FOR IAHRC. BRAZIL, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY EXPLAINED THEIR FAVORABLE VOTE AFTERWARD AS DESPITE EARLIER CRITICISM
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OF IRREGULAR PROCEDURE AND POOR PRECEDENT OF EARMARKING

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FUNDS. VENEZUELA (MACHIN) SUPPORTED
US OFFER, PROMISED TO RECOMMEND SIMILAR CONTRIBUTION TO
GOV AND MADE LIGHTLY VEILED ALLUSION TO LETELIER CASE IN

DEPLORING HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN SOME COUNTRIES
THAT EXTEND BEYOND THEIR OWN FRONTIERS. ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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